

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 110

Introduced by Assembly Members Leonard and Longville

January 11, 2000

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 110—Relative to the
CHP Officer Reuben F. Rios, Sr., Memorial Freeway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 110, as introduced, Leonard. CHP Officer Reuben F. Rios, Sr., Memorial Freeway.

This measure would designate an unspecified portion of Interstate Highway Route 15 as the “CHP Officer Reuben F. Rios, Sr., Memorial Freeway.” The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and markers designating that unspecified portion of Interstate Highway Route 15 and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect appropriate plaques and markers.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, California Highway Patrol Officer Reuben
2 F. Rios, Sr., made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting
3 and serving the people of California on October 26, 1996;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, While Officer Rios was directing traffic
6 departing the Blockbuster Pavillion, a concert venue in
7 Glen Helen by Interstate Highway Route 15, an
8 intoxicated motorist accelerated for a lane change and
9 struck Officer Rios; and

1 WHEREAS, Officer Rios was thrown onto the hood of
2 the vehicle, then into the windshield, and fell to the
3 pavement with major head trauma and internal injuries;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Fellow officers immediately rushed to
6 Officer Rios' aid and he was transported by air ambulance
7 to the hospital, but was pronounced dead upon his arrival;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The person responsible for Officer Rios'
10 death, was arrested, sentenced, and convicted of
11 vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence supported
12 by previous drunk driving convictions; and

13 WHEREAS, Officer Rios was born and raised in San
14 Bernardino County, California, on December 7, 1942;
15 graduated from San Bernardino High School in 1961;
16 served in the United States Army from 1964 to 1966; and
17 married his wife, Irene, in 1970; and

18 WHEREAS, Reuben F. Rios, Sr., at the age of 31 years,
19 entered the California Highway Patrol Academy in 1974,
20 and after graduation was assigned to the San Bernardino
21 Area command, where he served his entire career; and

22 WHEREAS, Officer Reuben F. Rios, Sr., after 22 years
23 of service to the San Bernardino area, had been named
24 Officer of the Year in 1996, and honored by the Latino
25 Peace Officers Association, the San Bernardino Chamber
26 of Commerce, the VFW, and others; and

27 WHEREAS, Officer Rios was active in his community,
28 including outstanding service as a member of MADD
29 (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers), and the Bloomington
30 Lions Club; and

31 WHEREAS, Officer Rios leaves behind his wife of 26
32 years; a daughter, Gina; a son, Reuben, Jr. (who
33 graduated from the CHP Academy in April 1998, and is
34 currently assigned to the Baldwin Park area); three
35 grandchildren; a brother, Richard; and a sister, Stella; and

36 WHEREAS, Officer Rios was known for his dedication
37 to the citizens of the State of California and to the
38 Department of the California Highway Patrol; and

39 WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the northbound and
40 southbound portions of Interstate Highway Route 15,

1 between _____, in the County of San Bernardino, be
2 dedicated to the memory of this fine officer who made the
3 ultimate sacrifice in his service to the people of the State
4 of California; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the*
6 *Senate thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby
7 dedicates the northbound and southbound portions of
8 Interstate Highway Route 15, between _____, San
9 Bernardino County, California to the memory of
10 California Highway Patrol Officer Reuben F. Rios, Sr.;
11 and be it further

12 *Resolved,* That that portion of Interstate Highway
13 Route 15 be officially designated the “CHP Officer
14 Reuben F. Rios, Sr., Memorial Freeway”; and be it further

15 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is
16 requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques
17 and markers, consistent with the signing requirements
18 for the state highway system, showing this special
19 designation, and upon receiving donations from nonstate
20 sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those plaques
21 and markers; and be it further

22 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
23 transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of
24 Transportation and to the author for appropriate
25 distribution.

